

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

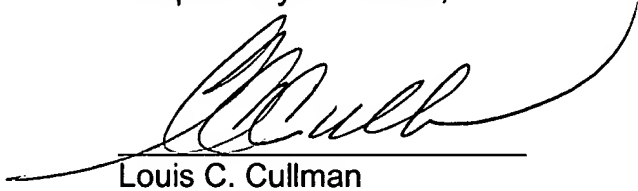
The Applicants has cancelled claims 15-17, 19, 20, 22, 23 and 25-28 without prejudice to reviving these claims in subsequent continuing applications. The Applicants cancelled claims 15-17, 19, 20, 22, 23 and 25-28 in order to expedite the issuance of allowed claims 29-32.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 50-1329.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/18/03



Louis C. Cullman
Registration No. 39,645
CUSTOMER NUMBER: 31,278

STRADLING YOCCA CARLSON & RAUTH
660 Newport Center Drive, Suite 1600
Newport Beach, CA 92660
Telephone: (949) 725-4000
Facsimile: (949) 725-4100